



THE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOOD TIMES

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FEB. 17, 1978

VALENTINE DANCE TONIGHT

The Swinging Sweethearts dance will be held tonight at 7:30 in the middle school gym. The dance will run from 7:30 to 10:00. The refreshments will include Pepsi, Seven-Up, and Mountain Dew.

Decorations will be red, pink and white streamers, cupids, and hearts. The tickets will cost seventy-five cents and one dollar at the door. Mike Bain will be playing records. Be sure to bring your clean socks! See you there.

L.D.

Dress Up Days

Yesterday and today are special dress days. Yesterday was kindergarten day and students dressed to look five years old. Today is twin day, a day when two friends choose to dress identically.

What is Pep Club?

Have you heard of the Pep Club? Well, it's a group who cheers for the seventh and eighth grade games. Forty girls make up the club which meets on Fridays each week.



Let love ever light
the path ahead.

(continued from 1st col.)

Four squads are organized from the forty girls to cheer at the two games at home. Each squad cheers for half of a game. Every home game has assigned squads.

Mrs. Herm is the advisor for the Pep Club and she directs these jumping beans.

The girls, who even have a couple of mascots, younger sisters of theirs, pick their own squad uniform. All of them wear red sweaters. So get prepared for pep.

R.B.

Changing of the Guard

With the start of the new semester, there are some changes in the faculty. Mrs. Nitz, who was teaching 7th and 8th grade math in room 104, left and was replaced by Mrs. Dobbs who had been on a leave of absence since having her baby last January. In the music classes, a new teacher has been added, Mr. Dyer. He is teaching 6th grade music 1st and 2nd hours. Mr. Dyer is also choral director at the high school.

S.T.

Music Assembly January 19

A music assembly was held the last day of the last six weeks during 6th hour. Mrs. Herm led the 7th and 8th graders in group singing and duets. Traci Gudecki and Shawn Thompson performed a duet as did Donna Gahstin and JoLinda Jach.

Some of the songs performed by the group as a whole included Yankee Doodle Boy, If You Could Read My Mind, On and On, Here Comes the Sun, Mandy and a song just for laughs, On Top of Spaghetti. The concert lasted about twenty-five minutes.

D.Z.

Editor's Corner (guest editorial)

Sixth graders have been mad because there are no sports for them. Well, they are not going to be mad any more because there are going to be intramural sports, at least in basketball. It is not certain if there is going to be boys and girls basketball or not. So far we do know that there would not be any wrestling or track. Basketball would begin after the 8th grade basketball season is finished.

by John Pugsley

Letter to the Editor

To the editor,

Been a little chilly lately? You are not the only one. It's so cold I would not be surprised if it started to snow inside the building. And even at times you have to chisel open your books in the morning.

I know we're supposed to conserve energy, but really! How are we supposed to work or keep our minds on our studies when all we can really think about is warmth, warmth, warmth?

Signed-

Jack Frost

CRYING IS ...

Crying is a way of getting rid of great amounts of stress and strain. Crying is also a way of showing great amounts of happiness in your heart that you feel for yourself or for others.

kc

AGE IS ...

Age is the way that life tells you how much experience you have had in life.

Age is the pleasure you have enjoyed over the years you have lived.

Age is who and what you are.

So- never be ashamed of your age. Instead be grateful that God has given you a life as long as you have and look at age in a positive way.

kc

GOOD TIMES ADVISOR

Dear Good Times Advisor,

I am very popular but only because I am rich. How should I get real friends?

signed- Very Rich

(Good Times Advisor continued)

I think you should be natural and be yourself around other students and around teachers.

Dear Good Times Advisor,

I am in the Leos Club and wondered if you could write a letter to the student body. I'm asking this because I do not think this group is well enough recognized by the public.

The Leos Club is an organization that helps people in dire need. They try to provide for people who need food, clothes or money. Thank you.

Dear Leo,

You just did. If anyone wants to learn more about how they could help, refer to the notice on the wall by the honor roll or ask a Leo. Your editor is one.

Dear Good Times Advisor,

I am very dull and want to be popular. I tried to give parties, I tried new clothes and hairstyle, but nothing changed. What should I do?

signed- Very dull and unhappy

Dear Hap,

Act Natural!

If you would like advice from G.T.A., please bring your letters to room 103 and they will reach the G.T.A. They may be unsigned.

THE GOOD TIMERS-

Editor- Kyle Caldwell

News Editors- Kim McDowell, Teresa Quick, Rene Giuzio, John Pugsley, D. Zalewski

Feature Editors- Debbie Haefner, Patty Ross, Laura Turas, Rhonda Barker

Reporters- Minday Racette, Jill Terrill, Nita Ricketson, Traci Grudecki, Don Boven, Pam Watterworth, Mark Serbetski

Sports- Ed McKee, Carl Erickson, Assistant to the editor- Shawn Thompson

Art- James Turas, Laura Turas

Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 2:30 in room 103.

Dear V.R.,

(continued at top)

STAMPS- Hobby Corner

To start stamp collecting, you should pick a subject that you like. It could be any country or topic.

To begin a collection of commemorative stamps (stamps which honor special events or people), you can go to your local post office. New stamps are more valuable than used ones. Then, if you have a stamp book, you place the stamps in it. A stamp book has clear plastic pockets for storing your stamps.

Stamp hinges usually come with a stamp collection starter kit available at the post office. The hinges are used to put on back of the stamps and placed in the books they give you with the kit. You should not put the hinges on the back of the stamps though because it will lower the value of the stamp.

So for all you stamp lovers, start collecting. New stamps will have been issued during the Christmas season and at the start of the new year.

by L. Turas

A STRANGE VALENTINE

Once there was a very ugly and stupid girl named Dorra Thud and she was in love with a gas station attendant named Fred who lived near by. Every day Dorra went on long rides on her purple and orange tractor (Dorra didn't like cars) just so she could use up gas and visit the gas station and Fred.

Fred, it should be mentioned, was no better-looking than Dorra. He had two teeth missing and always wore socks that didn't match.

Well, one day Fred noticed her coming and he hid. He hated Dorra. Unfortunately for Fred, Dorra found him. Fred decided he should tell her how he felt.

Dorra was crushed. She told him she'd show him. She'd go to Hollywood and become a star. (Ugly Dorra? a star?)

Fred figured that'd be worth seeing. Besides, she was a girl and few of them ever had time for him. So he followed her to Hollywood where they got married. There they lived happily ever after doing pimple commercials for acne medications.

WAPPAN JR. READY^{M.R.} FOR PRINT

Despite the snow, the yearbook should be ready to go to the publishers by March 1. The staff has been working twice a week since before Thanksgiving to get the book ready. Members of the staff this year include Shawn Thompson, Kyle Caldwell, Traci Grudecki, Tracy McNeil, Rene Giuzio, Laurie

Dietz, Jhon Mihelich, Diane Zalewski, Nita Ricketson, Tammy DeValle, Penny Holden, Becky Fellheimer, Kurt Lucas, Dawn Pierson, Kim McDowell, and Patti Kissel. These people have been working hard to put together the 1978 Wappaw Jr. Look for it to arrive in May.

Tod Kubiszak Wins-Blizzard Essay

Recently the Good Times held a contest for the best description of an unusual experience during the blizzard of 1978. The decision was not an easy one since there were several good experiences to choose from. The winning essay, however, belongs to Tod Kubiszak. Honorable mention should go to an excellent news reporting article done by Tim Burfield, and an experience described by Jill Terrill.

The following is Tod's essay.

My unusual experience during the blizzard of 1978 was having our ewes give birth to their lambs. Even though they were strawed down good, it was quite cold for a new-born lamb.

As soon as a lamb was born, we would bring it into our house and dry it off with a towel. As soon as that was done, we would catch the mother. We would straw a box stall and put the lamb with its mother. We would set up heat lamps to keep the baby lamb warm.

These lambs were Cheviot rams.

SUMMARY OF '78's BLIZZARD

This winter there were a lot of schools closed as a result of the blizzard of 1978. Kalamazoo schools were still closed even after Paw Paw had gone back.

At one time during the blizzard week, the roadways were turned into skiing places for pedestrians and snowmobile trails for others. Most people getting out were walking or on snowmobiles. Cars were stuck and snowed in in lots of places.

During the worst of the storm police officers were arresting people who were driving on the bad roads without a really good reason or emergency. They didn't have much trouble with this though since the snow was four to six feet deep in places and people couldn't get out at all.

Winter can really be a headache at times, but don't let it get to you.

Tim Burfield

WRESTLERS FINISH FIRST SEASON

The wrestling team did not do so well as they had hoped this year, but they gained valuable experience. The people on the team included Marty Albar, 78 pounds, Mike Stuart, 90 pounds, Robert Foraker, 97 pounds, Jeff Gyarmathy, 103 pounds, Thomas Thomas at 111 pounds, Jim Bare at 126 pounds, Todd Albar at 133 pounds, Calvin Ragan at 140, Clair Carr at 158, and Bill Daggitt at 163.

At Saturday's Vicksburg Invitational the team took 17 total points. The winning team had 135 points. For the first year of a wrestling program, however, the team thought we did pretty well.

by T. Thomas

EDUCATION ELSEWHERE

We are beginning a series on education in other countries; the first of the series will deal with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet schools are run, in a way, by the Communist Party. Most of the schooling is meant to train people for jobs in science or industry. The average age for a person to start school is seven, although the children might have gone to nursery or day school before.

Although the government means to give eleven years of education, most students only get eight years. In order to get eleven years, you have to pass a qualifying examination. Those who pass the exam go on to high school and are usually assigned to industrial jobs after they graduate. The students who didn't pass the exam are sent on to labor reserves where they will be trained for lesser paying industrial jobs.

Colleges are even more difficult to get into than the high school. Only a chosen few may attend and specialize in areas where the need is greatest unlike our system of free choice.

by K. McDowell

Suggestions, Anyone?

Do YOU have any suggestions for the Good Times? There may be issues you'd like to see discussed or stories you think we should include. Write us and drop your ideas off in room 103- or come join us on Wednesday nights. See the bulletin for times.

LOOKS
LIKE
SPRING'S
A LONG

WAY - 'specialty'
to a ground
hog on this
Feb. 2 -
blizzard & all!

PEOPLE WATCHING

The spotlight for this month's people-watching column is on Shaun Cassidy. He was born in Beverly Hills California on Sept. 27, 1958. This 19-year-old Libran has not only a hit television show, The Hardy Boys, but also hit records. How does he do it? He says, in one report, that he doesn't quite know himself, but he's happy he has gone so far.

P.W./ D.H.

BOYS NEAR SEASON'S END

Thursday is the last day for the 8th grade basketball team to play at home, and the last day of the season for either 7th or 8th grade boys. Feb. 23's game will be played against North Christian. Tuesday's game will be an 8th grade home game against Three Rivers with the 7th grade traveling to Three Rivers.

The boys have worked hard this season and gained experience, thanks to Coaches Erickson and Snell.

If you could travel ANYWHERE...

This month the roving reporters were all over the school trying to find out where any of you cabin feverish people would go if you had a chance to go anywhere in the world.

Becky Woodhams said she'd go to the Phillipines where it's warm and never snows. Following that line of thought, Melissia Smith said she'd head for Hawaii "because it is so warm and nice over there." Diane Zalewski and Pam Ritsema would follow suit, Pam mentioning "I like to surf." Jackie Liegner also thinks she'd enjoy Hawaii. "It sounds better than what we have here."

Continued p. 5

Roving Reporters find where we'd rove

Warm places were on the minds of Nancy Livingston and Julie Alsup when they said they'd go to California. Julie would "visit my uncle." Debbie Haefner was torn between California and Switzerland. (They're a lot alike?) "Switzerland," she says, "I like to ski. California because of the movie stars."

Karen Gost would also head for California because she likes to lie out in the sun and she'd like to see what Burt Reynolds really looks like.

Two others who would go for the sun are Winston Seals who'd go to Hawaii and Randy Osborn who'd like to head for California.

Linda Sirrine mentions she'd like to go to "Cedar Point. I like the rides." Getting completely out of the country, Laura Turas said she'd go to "Australia because they have koala bears which I think are cute and lovable." Australia sounded good to Tim South also because "it's sunny and I would like to meet some of the 'critters'."

Europe appealed to several students. Jodie Lugar would like to go to "Germany. I have always wanted to go there because that's where most of our history heritage comes from." Diane Buys would also go to Germany "to learn all the different customs and to find distant cousins."

Michele Herwick would like to go to "Paris because I think it's beautiful." Kim McDowell would visit the Netherlands "for the scenery." Barb Berner would simply go to Europe saying she would like to meet foreign guys.

Shawn Thompson would pack and leave for Acapulco which to him "sounds warmer!" Janice Yarbrough would also visit Acapulco since "my mom and dad are going there. It's also a lot warmer than Florida and they have nice beaches."

James Turas suggests a visit to "New Zealand. It's beautiful and not crowded. The air is clean." Carrie Dutton would enjoy seeing Africa because "her uncle has a company there."

(Continued opinion poll)

Debbie Terrell would like to "go to Yugoslavia because I think I have relatives there. My great-aunt and grandma came from there. I would like to learn Croatian and their customs."

Theresa Millek said "If I could go anywhere, I would go to Romania. I have relatives there that I have never seen of met before. I've always wondered about what my cousins looked like or if they were my age."

Florida appeals to Julie Reits for the "warmth and it's relaxing." Elaine Wilson would go to Miami to get out of the cold "and maybe meet some of the movie stars who are there." Florida has another appeal for Tod Hubiszak who "would go to the Daytona 500 and see two-time national champion Cale Yarborough win it by two laps."

Lesley Smith would go to Wisconsin and North Dakota "because they probably have historic things about Laura Ingalls Wilder!" Karin Diljak would go to "Switzerland because I love skiing and I love traveling so much."



Locker clean-out - finally!
Some of us had more than 10 minutes worth of junk to dispose of and we found ourselves rushing to make it to second hour.

